Kyng of moche Brittagne. C. liij.

Anoon aft'
the bataill
alle they
wenten
to London
& crouned
there Con
stantyne & made hym kyng of
this londe. and the Bisshopp
Gosselyn sette the croune vp
on his hede. and anoynted hy
as falleth to a kyng for to ben
& tho bigan cristendome. This
kyng Constantine whan he was
crouned anoon after he spouse
de a wyf thorough counseile of
the Britouns. And he bigate
.iij. sones in hir. the firste me cal
lede Constaunce. þe other Aur
ambros. & the thridde Uter.
Constaunce the eldeste brother
whan he come to age he made
hym a monke at Wynchestre.
Constantyne her fader was
slayn thorough treson. ffor it bi
fel vpon a tyme that a peight
come to hym vpon a day in
message as it were. & seide that
he wolde speke with the kyng
priueliche in counseill. the king
lete voyde his chambre of the
men that were theryñne. And
abide there no mo but the king
& the pighte. And the peighte
made a countenaunce as though

x one glass only a

kepers of his body as he wolde we
ende thorough the lande to ordey
ne thinges that pertenede to a kig.
And this Vortiger honourede so
moche tho .C. knyghtes. and somo
the 3af hem of golde & siluer & so
riche iewelez robes hors & othere
nobleye plente. Wherfore they he
elde hym more lorde than they
diden the kyng. Thus Vortig[er]
tolde hem 3if that he myghte be
kyng: he wolde make hem richeste
of the lande. So at the laste thorough
grete 3iftes that he hadde 3ouen
largely: they crieden thorough out
the courte that Vortiger were bet-
ter worthy to be kyng than Con
staunce. Wherfore Vortiger made
semblaunt as he hadde be wroth.
& departede thennes fro the courte
and seide þt he must gone elles
whider for thing that he hadde to
done. and so the traytour seide for
encheson that they shulde sleen
the kyng Constaunce. Whanne
this Vortiger was gone it bifel
soone after that tho hundred
knyghtes of Peightes braken
the dores of the kinges chambre
and there they slowe the kyng.
and smyten of his heed & baren
it to Vortiger there þt he dwelle
de. And whan Vortiger saugh
the heed: he wepte ful tenderly
with his eyen. and natheles he
was somdel glad of his deth. and

xxx. m. & lxi. knyghtes. and wt
moche sorwe many of hem esca
pede. And Vortiger hym self
was taken & ladde to Ashwong
castell. & putt into prisoun. and
some of Engistes men wolde
þat þe kyng hadde be brende al
quyk. ¶ And Vortiger tho to
haue his lyf graunted hem as
moche as they wolde aske. and
ȝaf vp al the lande tounes &
casteles Cites & Bourghes.
to Engist & to his folke. & alle
the Britouns fledde thennes.
into Wales. and þe helde hem
stille. And Engist wente tho
rough the lande & seisede al þe
lande with ffraunchises. and
in euery place lete caste doun chir
ches & houses of Religioun. & de
stroiede cristendome thorough
al the lande. & lete chaunge þe
name of the lande. þat no man
of his were so hardy after þat
tyme to calle this londe Bri
taigne: but to calle it Engis
tes lande. And he departede
al the lande to his men. & þe
made. vii. kynges for to streg
the þe lande þat þe Britouns sh
ulde neue comen therynne.
¶ The firste kyngdome was
Kent there þat Engist hym self
regnede & was lorde & ouer
al the othere. ¶ Another kyng
hadde Southsex. where is now

¶ Hic mutatur nomen
¶ Regni Britannie.
¶ et vocatur a Saxonibus
¶ Engistes lande.
¶ Quomodo qualiter regnum est
¶ diuisum in .vii. regna,
¶ primum regnum & principale.
¶ 2. regnum.

one gloss only
* b

herde telle that Engist was come
azen with a grete power into þis
lande: he assemblede his Britouns
and wente ageyn Engist forto
haue zouen hym bataylle & his
folke. But Engist dradde hym
sore of the Britouns. ffor thei had
de scomfited hym biforne hande
& dryuen hym out with strengthe.
wherfore Engist prayede of a lo
ue day. and seide that he was not
comen into the lande forto fighte:
but to haue his lande ageyn of
Kent zif he myghte acorde with
the Britouns. & of hem haue grace.
The kyng Vortiger thorough
counseile of his Britouns graun
tede a loueday. and thus it was
ordeyned thorough the Britouns
þt the same loueday shulde be hol
den faste bisides salusbury vpon
an hille. and Engist shulde come
thidre with .iiij.c. knyghtes with
outen mo. and the kyng with as
manye of the wiseste of this lan
de. And at that day the kyng
come with his counseile as it was
ordeyned. But Engist hadde
warned his knyghtes priuely and
hem commaunded þt euerichhe of
hem shulde putte a longe knyf in
his hose. and whan he seide faire
sires now is tyme to speken of lo
ve & pees: eurych of hem anoon
shulde drawe his knyf & sle a
Britoun. and so they quellede

this Edward in his childehode lo
uede almyghty god ⁊ hym drede
and in honeste ⁊ clennes ladde his
lyf. ⁊ hatede synne as deth. and
whan he was crouned ⁊ enoynted
with ryal power: he forzat not his
goode vertues ⁊ condicions þt he
first vsede. and he forzat not his
goode customes for no manne ho
nour ne for no richesse ne for no
manne highnesse. But euer more
and more zaf hym to goodnesse
⁊ wel louede god ⁊ al mekenesse.
and he louede god ⁊ holy chir
che passynge al maner thyng.
and poure men also ⁊ hem louede
and heelde as they hadden ben
his owne bretheren. ⁊ to hem zaf
ofte grete almes with good wille.

**Of the firste specialte that god
shewide for seint Edwardes lo
ue by his lyf. Cap°. cxxvj°.**

the goode lawes of Engelonde þt
zit ben most holden. ⁊ was so mercy
able ⁊ so ful of pitee. þt noman myght
te ben more.

**How the Erle Go
dewyn come azen into Engelonde
and how seint Edward wedde
de his doughter. Cap°. Cap°. cxxvij°.**

Whan the Erle Goodwyn
that was dwellinge in
Denmark hadde mo
che herde of the goodnesse of Ed
ward ⁊ þt he was of mercy and of pi
tee ⁊ thoughte þt he wolde gone
azen into Engelonde forto seche
and forto haue grace of hym ⁊ that
he myghte haue his londe azen
in pees. and arrayede hym a smo
che as he myghte ⁊ putte hym to
ward the see ⁊ come into Enge
londe to london there þt þe kyng
was þt tyme ⁊ alle the lordes of
Engelonde ⁊ heelde a grete par

forto maken hym kyng. and so
they wenten in her way towarde
london. And whan they comen
upon Gildesdon. tho seide the
traytour Godewyne to Alurede.
Taketh heede quod he aboute zou
bothe in the lift side & in the right
side. and of alle ze shullen be kyng
and of suche an hundred more.
Now forsothe quod Alurede
I bihote zif I be kynge I shal order
ne & make suche lawes wherof
god & all folke shulen holde he
wel payed. Now hadde the
traytour commaunded alle his
men þt were with hym that whan
they were come upon Gyldes
don that they shulde sleen alle
tho that were in Aluredes com
panye that comen with hym fro
Normandye. And after that
taken alurede & leden hym into

bowayles therto fastned. and
with nedles of iren prikkede þe
goode childe & so maden hym gon
aboute the stake til þt his bowai
les were drawen alle out. and so
deiede there Alurede thurgh tre
soun of the Erle Goodwyn.
Whan the lordes of Enge
londe hadden herde & wisten
how Alurede þt shulde haue ben
her kyng was putt unto þe deth.
thurgh the fals traytour the Erle
Goodwyn: they weren alle won
der wroth & sworen bitwene hem
god & by his hooly names that
he shulde deye on more worse deth
than dide Edrik of Stratton þt
hadde bitrayed his lorde Edmund
Irenside. And they wolde haue ta
ken hym & putte hym to the deth.
But the theef traytour fley then
nes into Denmark & there hel